

BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, October 17, 2011

Oliver Administration Building

Present

Subcommittee: William O'Dell, Chair, John Bento and Diana Campbell

School Committee, Administration and Staff: Denise Arsenault, Marjorie McBride, Susan Rancourt, John Saviano, Mario Andrade, Pauline Silva and George Simmons

Bill O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:43 PM.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: John Bento motioned to approve the minutes to the September 19, 2011 meeting; Bill O'Dell seconded. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 2 to 0; Diana Campbell abstained.

Mt. Hope High School

George, Pauline and Melinda testified before the Board of Regents in

regards to our request for immediate health and safety repair work. Approval of the entire \$1.6M request was granted; it includes the work on the erosion issue. A meeting with SMMA and their forensic engineers has been scheduled; the project will be extensive and most likely done during the summer; all potentially dangerous aspects have been shored up and student safety is ensured. The quote for the initial study by the engineers is \$4200 to \$4400; this work falls under the umbrella of SMMA and will not have to be bid out; they will present to George and the Subcommittee the underlying reasons for the erosion and provide a few options for rectification.

Oliver Administration Building

George explained the leak was caused by a rotting away of the old gutter system; leaking occurred twice due to the positioning of the gutters; repairs have been completed for \$2000; George will insist on new exterior gutters.

5-Year Asset Protection Plan

Pauline reported our Asset Protection Plan was submitted to the Board of Regents in May; a moratorium has been placed on 5-year Asset Protection Plans until June 2014, with the exception of projects needed for immediate health and safety concerns. A revised version of the \$10M plan, excluding the projects approved last week, will be submitted in 2014. The housing aid reimbursement rate has been

increased 5% from 62 and 66% to 67 and 71%.

Karen Lynch and John Bento questioned the asset protection plan work for Hugh Cole and its impact on the Phase II work planned with the bond referendum; there is concern that should a new elementary school be needed in Bristol, the renovation of Hugh Cole proper would provide buy-in for Warren voters. However, per policy, each major project on the Asset Protection Plan would have to be approved by the full Committee. Diana said asbestos is a serious health concern and removal of asbestos tiles should not be delayed for purposes of leverage.

George and Pauline feel we must be very aggressive with the emergency repair work that was approved by the BOR after pleading for approval. Ours and the request of a charter school were the only two requests approved by the BOR out of all before them.

The asbestos tiles at Hugh Cole are located in storage areas and George believes are not a threat to students; Mt. Hope is the only other school with asbestos; George is legally bound to report the possibility of asbestos in buildings; his goal is to make every school asbestos free. Denise Arsenault feels health is the first consideration when making project decisions. Bill suggested this agenda item be included on the next agenda for more in depth discussion.

Hugh Cole Fence

George contacted The Trust; they have no jurisdiction over fencing and they do not require it around playgrounds; the cost of fencing the Hugh Cole facility is estimated at \$14,000. Pauline said building administrators and the police are not in favor of fencing and need access to the back of the building after hours. Susan Rancourt believes running busses is a good alternative, and Hugh Cole parents do not see the lack of a fence as an issue; also, parents at a KMS PTO meeting were frustrated with the District's inability to purchase PBIS materials; Mario said there must be some miscommunication because this is not the case; he will speak with Susan further after the meeting. Marj's concern for fencing is protection from loose dogs or predators. It was the consensus of the group not to pursue the fencing further.

Karen Lynch left the meeting at 7:10 PM.

KMS Parking Lot

Diana mentioned how difficult it was for her to find the exit while driving out of the KMS parking lot one evening; all agreed the lot is extremely dark and a potential hazard. Jeff Howlett is working on a plan for the traffic and bus flow within the lot; George painted very bright cross walks but they are not visible enough with headlights; a while back he had installed two large lights; he researched installing additional light poles but the plans by the Town of Warren for their new "Safe Routes to School" grant may address the issue.

George left the meeting at 7:19 PM.

FY 2011

Pauline reported the draft financials of the audit will be ready early next week; there is an uncommitted General Fund balance of \$9,285.59.

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to roll into Capital Projects the FY2011 fund balance of \$9,285.59. John Bento seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

FY 2012 General Fund

Pauline distributed the attached report; the final award of the CRP has not been received so there are negative balances in the federal funds lines.

Susan Rancourt left the meeting at 7:21 PM.

Capital Projects expenditures to date total \$63,153.79.

Pauline reported on State Housing Aid (attached). Total for capital is \$1,033,371; \$158,875 will go to the Bristol loan, leaving \$874,496.

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to transfer \$874,496 from housing aid back to capital projects. John Bento seconded. The

motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

With the two actions approved at this meeting, the capital improvements balance now becomes \$3,952,703.75.

Pauline also reported out on the Colt Andrews Project Loan from the Town of Bristol (attached). The \$2,050,000 loan will be reimbursed 62% by housing aid over 8 years, FY09 – FY16, \$158,875/year.

Adjournment

MOTION: At 7:27 PM Diana Campbell motioned to adjourn. John Bento seconded.

Denise Arsenault asked if the \$1.6M approved by the BOR should be spent before March; it is not necessary as that money is now committed to those projects. (Balance after committed for health and safety repairs --\$2,324,623.75.)

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

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